

CANADA 2019-2020

# 2019

- Last year was fairly a “normal” year
- IUGG in Montreal in July 8 - 18
- ArcticNet was held in Halifax in December 2-5
- Official Opening of the Canadian High Arctic Research Station (CHARS)
- POLAR’s Northern Science Award presented to Julie Cruikshank
- The Government of Canada Launches Co-Developed Arctic and Northern Policy Framework

# Official opening of the Canadian High Arctic Research Station (CHARS) campus

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The opening of the Canadian High Arctic Research Station (CHARS) campus in Cambridge Bay, Nunavut, was held on **August 21, 2019**.



The official opening ceremony was a celebration of the completion of the CHARS campus project. Various community activities for all ages were also held on Thursday, August 22.

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## **The official opening of the Canadian High Arctic Research Station (CHARS) campus in Cambridge Bay, Nunavut, opens a new chapter in Canada's polar research leadership**

Today, residents of the arctic community of Cambridge Bay; Yvonne Jones, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Intergovernmental and Northern Affairs and Internal Trade, on behalf of the Honourable Carolyn Bennett, Minister of Crown-Indigenous Relations; the Honourable Jeannie Ehaloak, member of the Executive Council of Nunavut and Member of the Legislative Assembly for Cambridge Bay; Her Worship, Pamela Gross, Mayor of Cambridge Bay; and David J. Scott, President and Chief Executive Officer for Polar Knowledge Canada, together marked the official opening of the Canadian High Arctic Research Station (CHARS) campus. The new facility is designed to facilitate inclusive collaboration between scientists and Indigenous knowledge holders.

With state-of-the-art features that enable Canadian and international researchers to perform in-depth scientific analysis without leaving the Arctic, and its welcoming spaces for discussions and knowledge exchange, the CHARS campus symbolizes a new chapter in Canada's polar leadership.

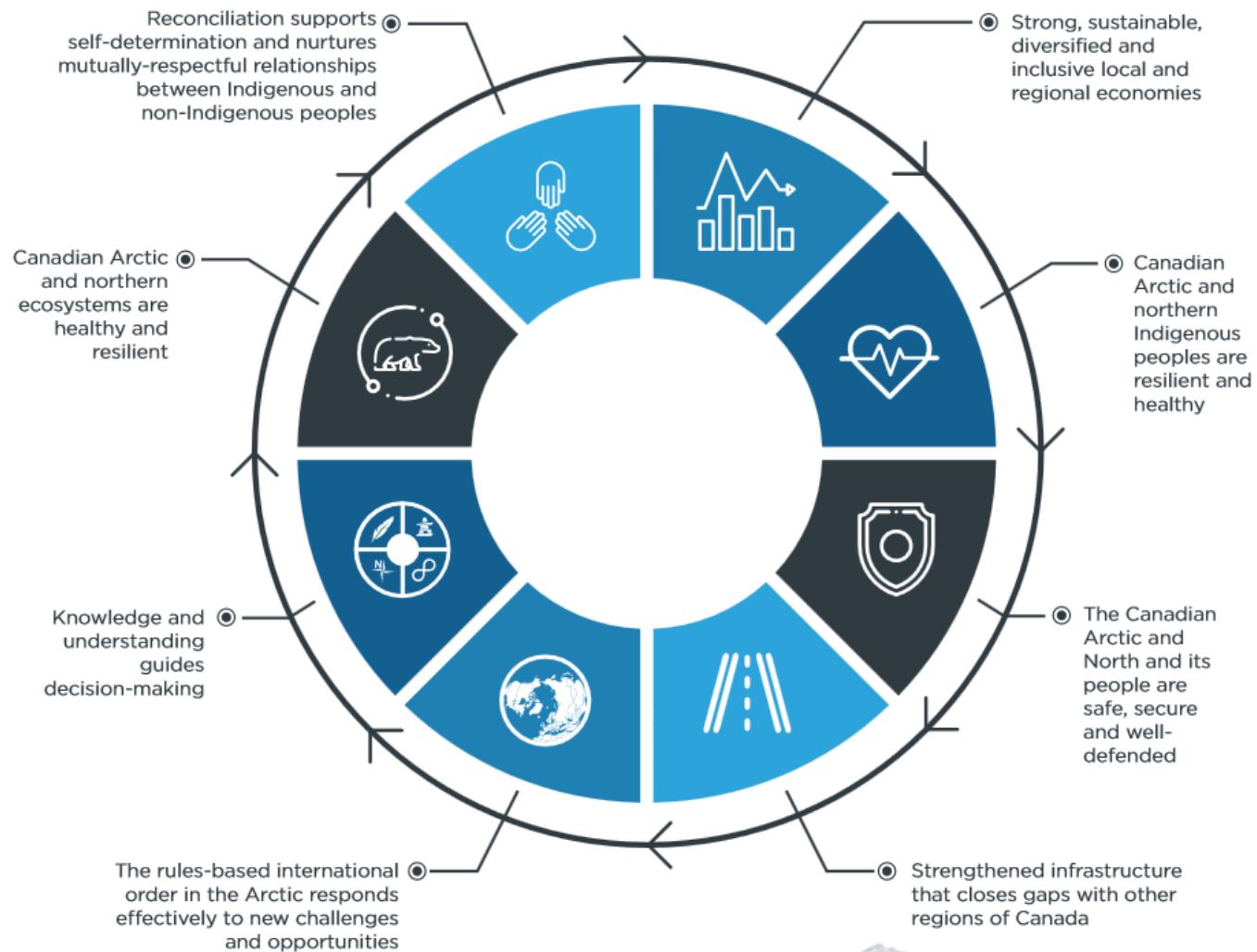
The CHARS campus, which further strengthens Canada's pan-northern network of research facilities, is integrated into the community of Cambridge Bay and was developed in close consultation with residents. Its design benefited from Inuit Knowledge, its architecture incorporates many references to Inuit culture, and Inuit art is a prominent feature of the Main Research Building.

As a place where Indigenous Knowledge is recognized as being fundamentally important to our understanding of the Arctic, the CHARS campus offers a rich, collaborative environment for the creation of new knowledge that is needed to address the issues that Northerners and Canadians have identified as important in the context of a rapidly changing Arctic.

# Arctic and Northern Policy Framework

- “Canada’s new Arctic and Northern Policy Framework will shape Canada’s responses to the new challenges and opportunities in the North. The Arctic region is central to Canada’s national identity, prosperity, environment, security and sovereignty. Broadening Canada’s international engagement will contribute to ensuring the priorities of Northerners, especially Indigenous peoples, are central to all we do.”
  - The Honourable Chrystia Freeland, P.C., M.P., Minister of Foreign Affairs
- Budget 2019 proposed a number of new measures totaling more than \$700 million to support the Framework and complement existing efforts to strengthen Arctic and northern communities.
  - \$21.8 million over 5 years to Environment and Climate Change Canada for the Eureka Weather Station on Ellesmere Island (this is for infrastructure, not for research)

» The **framework** builds on 8 overarching and interconnected goals:



**This whole-of-government, co-development process has been supported by:**

- 3 territorial governments
- Over 25 Indigenous organizations representing, Inuit, First Nations and Métis
- 3 provincial governments (Manitoba, Quebec, Newfoundland and Labrador)

» **Key milestones** in the co-development of the framework

# 2020

- This year will not be a normal year!
- Very difficult to get inside information because everyone is hunkered down.
- Essentially the entire region has been shut down
  - Yukon, Nunavut, NWT closed borders, 14-day isolation needed
  - Suspension of Nunavut Research Institute's (NRI) programs and services
  - Polar Continental Shelf Program (PCSP) programs shut down
  - Northern Institute in Churchill mostly closed
  - Polar Environment Atmospheric Research Laboratory (PEARL) on automatic
  - Etc.....
- Outlook – stormy...”hurricane-strength”
  - At some time we will be trying to restart
  - What programs will be salvaged for 2020 or deferred to 2021?
  - Will there be a hit to research funds because of the economic situation?